Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Program + Laradon

Laradon now offers Child Care Contribution Tax Credits (CCTC). This means taxpayers who make a qualifying donation to Laradon may claim an income tax credit of 50% of the total qualifying contribution.

What you need to know about Laradon's CCTC:

- The 2026 donation minimums are $500 for an individual and $1,000 for a business.
- The maximum contribution is $100,000.

Below are answers to some of your most frequently asked questions about the tax credit. Have questions that aren't listed here? Please reach out to Lauren Pietrek, Director of Philanthropy, at lauren.pietrek@laradon.org. We're always happy to help!

What is the Colorado Child Care Tax Credit?

The Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Program encourages greater support of Colorado child care programs by providing donors with a 50% Colorado income tax credit for eligible contributions. Here is an example of potential tax savings for a donation of $1,000:

Tax Savings Example for a Donation of $1,000	
$1,000 donation to Laradon	$1,000
Colorado Income Tax Credit	($500)
Charitable Deduction – State Tax Savings	($46)
After Tax Cost of Giving to Laradon*	$454
Total Tax Savings	($546)

**For illustrative purposes only. If you itemize deductions on your federal income tax return, your savings could be even greater. Please consult your tax preparer for advice regarding your personal situation.*

Do I need to have children in child care to benefit from this contribution tax credit?

No. You do not need to have children to be eligible to claim the credit. Eligibility is based on making a qualifying contribution to an eligible child care program.

Is there a minimum amount I have to donate to receive the credit?

The 2026 donation minimums are $500 for an individual and $1,000 for a business. The maximum Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit an individual may claim in a tax year is $100,000.

Are Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) eligible for the tax credit?

Your QCDs may be eligible for the tax credit. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your specific situation.

Do I have to itemize my taxes if I want to use this credit?

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Commented [LP2]: This information is on our website but I could not find these minimums anywhere else in my research. DECC gives an example of a $250 gift on their website: https://denverearlychildhood.org/get-involved/colorado-child-care-contribution-credit/

No. This is a tax credit rather than an itemized deduction, so you may be eligible to claim the credit whether or not you itemize your federal income taxes. Individual tax circumstances vary, so please consult your tax advisor with questions about your specific situation.

When will I receive my tax credit form?

For qualifying contributions, you will receive a signed DR 1317, Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Certification, by mail at the beginning of 2027. You will use this form when claiming the credit on your Colorado state income tax return.

How Do I Claim the Tax Credit?

To receive the tax credit, you must designate your contribution for the Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Program at the time of your gift or notify Laradon of your intention.

You can designate your gift by:

Writing "Child Care Tax Credit" on the memo line of your check; or

Contacting Lauren Pietrek at lauren.pietrek@laradon.org

I've already made a gift this year, but I'm not sure if I designated it for the tax credit. What should I do?

We are happy to help you with this! Please reach out to Lauren Pietrek by December 31, 2026 at lauren.pietrek@laradon.org or (720) 974-6815.